

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

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This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:CLAIMS WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. (currently amended) A junction between a first pneumatic element (1) having a hollow screw (3) of longitudinal axis (3a) and a second pneumatic element (2) provided with a tapped orifice (2a) for receiving the hollow screw (3), a first shoulder (5) of the hollow screw being provided for facing the edge (6) of the tapped orifice (2a), and an O-ring (7) being provided under the shoulder (5) to provide sealing between the first and second elements, ~~the junction being characterized in thatwherein~~ the first element (1) carries a bearing surface (8) at its end opposite from the thread, which bearing surface is terminated axially by a second shoulder (11), a tubular spacer (9) being slidably mounted on said bearing surface to slide between a first position in which it extends beyond the first shoulder (5) beside the thread, and a second position in which it is in contact with the second shoulder (11), the spacer including means (9a; 12) for indicating the tightening tension that has been established or that is to be established in the hollow screw (3).

2. (currently amended) A junction according to claim 1, ~~characterized in thatwherein~~ the bearing surface (8) possesses a peripheral portion in relief (10), and ~~in thatwherein~~ the spacer (9) possesses a wall portion (9a) that is displaceable on going past the portion in relief.

3. (currently amended) A junction according to claim 2,  
~~characterized in that~~wherein the displaceable wall portion  
(9a) is elastically deformable.
4. (currently amended) A junction according to claim 2,  
~~characterized in that~~wherein the displaceable wall portion  
(9a) is breakable.
5. (currently amended) A junction according to ~~any one of~~  
~~claims~~claim 1 to 4, characterized in that, wherein the spacer  
(9) possesses a flattening zone which becomes flattened when  
it is axially compressed between the second shoulder (11) and  
the edge of the tapped orifice (2a).
6. (currently amended) A junction according to claim 5,  
~~characterized in that~~wherein the above-mentioned flattening  
zone is constituted by portions in relief (14) at the end (13)  
of the spacer.
7. (currently amended) A junction according to ~~any one of~~  
~~claims~~claim 1 to 4, characterized in that, wherein at least  
one of the axial ends of the spacer (9) is provided with teeth  
suitable for biting into the second shoulder (11).
8. (currently amended) A junction according to claim 1,  
~~characterized in that~~wherein the spacer is transparent or  
translucent.
9. (currently amended) A junction according to ~~any preceding~~  
~~claim~~claim 1, characterized in that wherein the spacer is  
held in its first position by axially-indexed connection means  
provided between the bearing surface and said spacer, which  
means are deactivated under the effect of an axial force

applied against the spacer urging it towards the second shoulder.